

REMARKS

By the subject amendment, Applicant has cancelled Claims 6, 8 and 19 and amended Claims 1, 7, 9, 11, 17. Accordingly, Claims 1 to 5, 7, 9 to 18, 20 and 21 are presently pending herein. Claims 1, 17 and 20 are presented in independent form.

Claims 20 and 21 were previously allowed. Claims 18 to 11, 14, 16 and 19 were indicated to contain allowable subject matter. Claim 1 has been amended to include language similar but not identical to Claim 8 which was previously indicated to contain allowable subject matter.¹ It is respectfully submitted that Claim 1 and Claims 2 to 5, 7 and 9 to 16 which depend directly or indirectly from Claim 1 patentably define over the prior art of record. Claim 17 has been amended to include the language of Claim 19 with the sole exception of the limitations of Claim 18, from which Claim 19 originally depended, i.e., the limitations of Claim 18 have not been incorporated into Claim 17. Applicants respectfully submits that Claim 17 and Claim 18 that depends from Claim 17 patentably define over the prior art of record.

The specification and abstract have been amended to address informalities noted in the Office Action. Specifically, the description of Figure 10 has been amended to correct an obvious typographical error. The amendment makes clear that Figure 10 is a cross-sectional view of Figure 7 taken along line 10-10 shown in original Figure 7. The abstract has been amended by deleting the objected to “means” language. With regard to reference numeral “13” Applicant’s point out that this reference numeral was originally included in Figure 2.

¹ It should be noted that Claim 8 originally depended from Claim 7 which in turn depended from Claim 6 which in turn depended from Claim 1. The limitations of Claim 7 have not been incorporated into Claim 1.

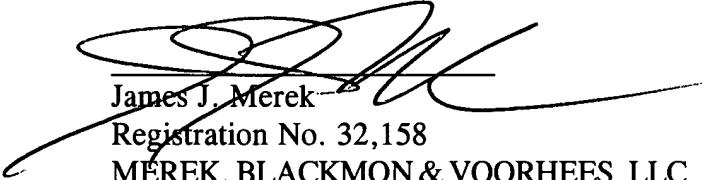
Formal drawings are submitted herewith. Please note that Figure 4 has been amended to include line 5-5.

It is respectfully submitted that the subject patent application is now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants request that this application proceed to issuance.

It is believed that no fees are due at this time, however should this determination be incorrect, then please charge any deficiencies to our Deposit Account No. 50-0562 and notify the undersigned in due course. Should the Examiner have any questions or wish to discuss this matter further, please contact the undersigned at the number listed below.

7/8/05
Date

Respectfully Submitted,


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